

system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information through the network cloud.

10. (Amended) The computer system of claim 1, wherein the mirroring controller is distributed between the first and second storage systems [at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system].

22. (Amended) A computer system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU);

a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU;

a second storage system;

at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU, the at least one communication link including at least one wireless connection, wherein the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system; and

a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information over the at least one communication link.

24. (Amended) The computer system of claim 22, wherein the mirroring controller is distributed between the first and second storage systems [at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems so that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system].

31. (Amended) A computer system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU);

a first communication link;

a first storage system coupled to the CPU via the first communication link to store information written from the CPU;

a second storage system;

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a second communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU, wherein the second communication link extends between the first and second storage systems so that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system;

a third storage system;

a third communication link coupling the third storage system to the CPU, wherein the third communication link extends between the first and third storage systems so that the third storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system; and

(15) a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system in both the second and third storage systems.

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36. (Amended) The computer system of claim 31, wherein the mirroring controller is distributed between the first and second storage systems [second communication link extends between the first and second storage systems so that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system; and

wherein the third communication link extends between the first and third storage systems so that the third storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system].

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37. (Amended) A method of operating a computer system that includes a central processing unit (CPU), a first communication link, a first storage system coupled to the CPU via the first communication link to store information written from the CPU, a second storage system, a second communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU and extending between the first and second storage systems so that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system, a third storage system, and a third communication link coupling the third storage system to the CPU and extending between the first and third storage systems so that the third storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system, the method comprising a step of:

(A) in response to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, mirroring at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system in both the second and third storage systems by transferring the at least some of the information over the second and third communication links.

39. (Amended) A method of mirroring information stored in a computer system comprising a central processing unit (CPU), a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU, and a second storage system coupled to the CPU by at least one communication link, the at least one communication link including a network cloud that is shared with at least one other resource so that no portion of the network cloud is dedicated exclusively to coupling the second storage system to the CPU, wherein the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system, the method comprising a step of:

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A) in response to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, transmitting, from the first storage system, into the network cloud at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system [into the network cloud] with the second storage system designated as a destination for the at least some of the information, so that the at least some of the information can be transferred through the network cloud and mirrored in the second storage system.

47. (Amended) A computer system capable of mirroring information in a remotely disposed target storage system that is coupled to the computer system via at least one communication link that includes a network cloud that is shared with at least one other resource, the computer system comprising:

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a central processing unit (CPU) coupled to the network cloud;
a source storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU, the source storage system to be coupled to the at least one communication link so that the at least one communication link extends between the source and target storage systems such that the CPU is coupled to the network cloud via the source storage system; and

a controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the source storage system, to transfer at least some of the information written from the CPU into the network cloud so that the at least some of the information can be mirrored in the target storage system.

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51. (Amended) The computer system of claim 47, wherein the source storage system comprises the controller [at least one communication link extends between the source and target storage systems such that the CPU is coupled to the network cloud via the source storage system].

53. (Amended) A computer system capable of mirroring information in a remotely disposed target storage system that is coupled to the computer system via at least one communication link that includes at least one wireless connection, the computer system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU) coupled to the at least one communication link;

a source storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU, the source storage system to be coupled to the at least one communication link so that the at least one communication link extends between the source and target storage systems such that the CPU is coupled to the at least one communication link via the source storage system; and

a controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the source storage system, to transfer at least some of the information written from the CPU into the at least one communication link so that the at least some of the information can be mirrored in the target storage system.

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56. (Amended) A computer system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU);

a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU;

a second storage system;

at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU so that the CPU can store information in the second storage system, the at least one communication link being selected from the group consisting of an Ethernet link, an asynchronous transfer mode (ATM) link, an FDDI link and a fibre channel link, wherein the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system; and

a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system ~~in~~ the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information over the at least one communication link.

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57. (Amended) The computer system of claim 56, wherein the mirroring controller is distributed between the first and second storage systems [at least one communication link extends

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between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system].

59. (Amended) A computer system comprising:
a central processing unit (CPU);
a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU;
a second storage system;
at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU so that the CPU can store information in the second storage system, the at least one communication link being selected from the group consisting of a packet switched network and a cell switched network,
wherein the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system; and
a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information over the at least one communication link.

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60. (Amended) The computer system of claim 59, wherein the mirroring controller is distributed between the first and second storage systems [the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system].

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61. (Amended) A computer system comprising:
a central processing unit (CPU);
a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU;
a second storage system;
at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU so that the CPU can store information in the second storage system, the at least one communication link including a network cloud, wherein the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled to the CPU via the first storage system; and

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a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information over the network cloud.

Please add the following claims:

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62. A computer system comprising:
a central processing unit (CPU);
a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU;
a second storage system;
at least one communication link coupling the second storage system to the CPU, the at least one communication link including a network cloud that is shared with at least one other resource so that no portion of the network cloud is dedicated exclusively to transferring information between the CPU and the second storage system, wherein the at least one communication link includes a plurality of communication paths from the CPU to the network cloud, so that a plurality of packets of the information can be transferred from the CPU to the second storage system in parallel through the network cloud; and
a mirroring controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, to mirror at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system in the second storage system by transferring the at least some of the information through the network cloud.

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63. The computer system of claim 62, wherein the at least one communication link includes a plurality of communication paths from the network cloud to the second storage system, so that a plurality of packets of information can be transferred in parallel from the network cloud to the second storage system.

64. The computer system of claim 62, wherein the at least one communication link extends between the first and second storage systems such that the second storage system is coupled

to the CPU via the first storage system.

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65. A method of mirroring information stored in a computer system comprising a central processing unit (CPU), a first storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU, and a second storage system coupled to the CPU by at least one communication link, the at least one communication link including a network cloud that is shared with at least one other resource so that no portion of the network cloud is dedicated exclusively to coupling the second storage system to the CPU, the method comprising a step of:

A) in response to the information being written from the CPU to the first storage system, transmitting at least some of the information written from the CPU to the first storage system over at least two parallel paths into the network cloud with the second storage system designated as a destination for the at least some of the information, so that the at least some of the information can be transferred through the network cloud and mirrored in the second storage system.

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66. A computer system capable of mirroring information in a remotely disposed target storage system that is coupled to the computer system via at least one communication link that includes a network cloud that is shared with at least one other resource, the computer system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU) coupled to the network cloud;
a source storage system that is coupled to the CPU to store information written from the CPU; and

a controller, responsive to the information being written from the CPU to the source storage system, to transfer at least some of the information written from the CPU into the network cloud so that the at least some of the information can be mirrored in the target storage system, wherein the CPU is coupled to the network cloud through a plurality of communication paths so that a plurality of packets of the information can be transferred from the CPU to the target storage system in parallel through the network cloud.

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67. The computer system of claim 61, wherein the mirroring controller is distributed between the first and second storage systems.